

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

2 DISTRICT OF MAINE

3 -----  
4 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

CRIMINAL ACTION

5 Plaintiff

Docket No: 10-mj-140-MJK

6  
7 -versus-

8  
9 MATTHEW DEHART,

10 Defendant  
11 -----

12 Transcript of Proceedings

13 Pursuant to notice, the above-entitled matter came on  
14 for **Detention Hearing** held before **THE HONORABLE**  
15 **MARGARET J. KRAVCHUK**, United States Magistrate Judge,  
in the United States District Court, Bangor, Maine, on  
the 11th day of August 2010 at 3:01 P.M. as follows:

16  
17 Appearances:

18 For the Government: Nancy Torresen, Esquire  
Assistant United States Attorney

19 For the Defendant: Virginia G. Villa, Esquire

20  
21 FTR Operator: Eileen Carver

22  
23 Lori D. Dunbar, RMR, CRR  
Official Court Reporter

24 (Prepared from FTR and  
25 computer aided transcription)

I N D E X

<u>Witness</u>	<u>Direct</u>	<u>Cross</u>	<u>Redirect</u>	<u>Recross</u>
Amy Blanchette	5	13	20	--

E X H I B I T S

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page/Admit</u>
Government's		
1	Complaint and affidavit	25
2	Synopsis	25
4	E-mail from Thresher	25
5	Firearms permit record	25

1 (Open court. Defendant present.)

2 THE COURT: This is Docket No. 10-140, United  
3 States of America versus Matthew Dehart. The  
4 Government's represented by Ms. Nancy Torresen, the  
5 defendant appears with Ms. Virginia Villa, and this is  
6 before the Court for hearing on issues of identity and  
7 production of the warrant, a preliminary examination,  
8 and a detention hearing. Ms. Villa, are we proceeding  
9 to have hearings on all of those issues?

10 MS. VILLA: No, Your Honor, we have a waiver  
11 of a Rule 5 and 5.1 hearing in which my client is  
12 willing to waive the identity hearing as well as the  
13 preliminary hearing but not the detention hearing.

14 THE COURT: And you have that waiver in front  
15 of you?

16 MS. VILLA: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Does he intend to execute it now?

18 MS. VILLA: Yes, ma'am.

19 THE COURT: All right, then he may do so.

20 MS. VILLA: You just sign.

21 THE COURT: And you've checked the appropriate  
22 blocks indicating his waiver is limited to an identity  
23 hearing and a preliminary hearing.

24 MS. VILLA: That is correct, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: And he has signed it and you have

1 signed it.

2 Mr. Dehart, you understand that you're giving up  
3 your right to a hearing on the question of probable  
4 cause to believe this offense occurred in Tennessee and  
5 that you've permitted it, and you're giving up your  
6 right to a hearing on the issue of whether you are  
7 indeed Matthew Dehart and there is indeed a warrant for  
8 your arrest in Tennessee.

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right. I'll approve that  
11 waiver.

12 Now, you're requesting to proceed to hearing on  
13 the issue of detention; is that correct?

14 MS. VILLA: That is correct, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, you may be  
16 seated.

17 Ms. Torresen?

18 MS. TORRESEN: Your Honor, this is a  
19 presumption case because there are minor victims  
20 involved, and I think that the defendant bears the  
21 burden of production in this, and as I understand it  
22 from talking to Virginia she's prepared to go forward  
23 with that.

24 THE COURT: All right. The Government  
25 essentially is resting on the presumption at this

1        juncture.

2                MS. TORRESEN:    Well, I'm just waiting to see  
3        what she produces and then I would have more if she can  
4        meet her burden.

5                MS. VILLA:    I -- I would call Amy Blanchette.

6                THE CLERK:    Please raise your right hand.    Do  
7        you solemnly swear that the testimony you shall give in  
8        the cause now in hearing shall be the truth, the whole  
9        truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

10               THE WITNESS:    I do.

11               THE CLERK:    Please have a seat.    Please state  
12        your name and spell your last name.

13               THE WITNESS:    Amy Blanchette,  
14        B-L-A-N-C-H-E-T-T-E.

15                                DIRECT EXAMINATION

16        BY MS. VILLA:

17        Q.        Miss Blanchette, you authored a Pretrial Services  
18        report regarding Mr. Dehart; is that correct?

19        A.        Yes, I did.

20        Q.        And in that report you have recommendations about  
21        the assessment of nonappearance as well as the  
22        assessment of danger; is that correct?

23        A.        Yes, I do.

24        Q.        I -- in those a part of your assessment of  
25        nonappearance seems to appear to be with a -- the

1 requirement of the Adam Walsh Act for electronic  
2 monitoring; is that correct?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. Is it correct that electronic monitoring is  
5 totally unavailable in the District of -- the Southern  
6 District of Indiana?

7 A. No, it's not.

8 Q. Okay. What kind of electronic monitoring would  
9 be available in that district?

10 A. The RF, radio frequency unit, is.

11 Q. And what does that radio frequency unit -- what  
12 kind of information does it provide?

13 A. That provides for when the defendant leaves the  
14 house and returns to the house.

15 Q. So that, for instance, if the defendant were  
16 restricted to his parents' residence in the Southern  
17 District of Indiana, except for preapproved  
18 appointments or medical appointments or whatever  
19 appointments that would be appropriate for him to  
20 attend, as well as court hearings, that he would have  
21 to contact a probation officer; is that correct?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. And they would know whether or not he has left  
24 and returned during the time allocated.

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. And that if he were to leave at any other time  
2 would that show up on that monitoring?

3 A. Yes, it would.

4 Q. And how soon would that show up on the monitoring  
5 if he left without permission?

6 A. It takes generally up to about five minutes.

7 Q. Now, you also mentioned a history of flight; is  
8 that correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And that history of flight would have occurred  
11 soon after a search warrant was performed at my  
12 client's residence; is that correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What do you know about that?

15 A. I know that the defendant apparently went to  
16 Mexico shortly after the search warrant was effected at  
17 the home.

18 Q. And how did you know about that trip to Mexico?

19 A. The defendant informed me he had been to Mexico,  
20 his father informed me he had been to Mexico, the FBI  
21 agents involved in the case told me he had been to  
22 Mexico, and then I spoke to his father to get more  
23 details about how he went to Mexico and how he returned  
24 from Mexico.

25 Q. All right. And so his father has been very

1 straightforward about giving you accurate information  
2 that later was confirmed by documents received from the  
3 Government; is that an accurate or fair statement?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. And it's your understanding that at the time that  
6 Mr. Dehart went to Mexico he wasn't under any -- any  
7 compulsion to stay in the United States?

8 A. None that I know of.

9 Q. And he wasn't under any compulsion to return to  
10 the United States.

11 A. None that I know of.

12 Q. And he did return to the United States.

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. Regarding his residence in Canada of which you  
15 also expressed a concern, how did you learn that  
16 Mr. Dehart had a residence in Canada?

17 A. He informed me he did.

18 Q. Okay. And did you make any efforts to confirm  
19 the information that he provided to you?

20 A. Yes, I spoke to the school.

21 Q. And did they confirm that what he had told you  
22 was in fact accurate?

23 A. No.

24 Q. No.

25 A. No.



1 Q. What was it?

2 A. He had informed me that he was staying in the  
3 lone dormitory on campus in room No. 13. When I spoke  
4 with the school they could find no record that he had  
5 applied for school housing, for student housing.

6 Q. Did you speak with his father or receive any  
7 documentation from his father regarding his schooling?

8 A. Just what you provided me, I believe.

9 Q. Okay. And I can't recall but did that have any  
10 confirmation as to a housing unit?

11 A. I don't know. Some of it was hard to read  
12 because it was a little blurry, to be honest.

13 Q. Where is it? My copies aren't the best, either.

14 While I'm looking for that document, regarding  
15 Mr. Dehart's criminal history, during your interview  
16 with him did he talk to you about his criminal history?

17 A. Yes, he did.

18 Q. And to your knowledge was he truthful about that?

19 A. Yes, to my knowledge he was.

20 Q. Okay. The other part of it was a question about  
21 his medical and insurance coverage and whether or not  
22 he had continued on with medication while in Canada; is  
23 that correct?

24 A. Question regarding?

25 Q. His -- he has a history of needing and taking

1       mental -- prescribed medications.

2       A.       Yes, he does.

3       Q.       Okay. And you were unaware as to whether or not  
4       he had continued that while he was in Canada; is that  
5       correct?

6       A.       Correct.

7       Q.       And I provided you with an insurance coverage  
8       listing, at least for the ILSC, which was a summer  
9       program he attended?

10      A.       Correct.

11      Q.       That reflects that he did have insurance  
12      coverage; is that right?

13      A.       Again, some of those were blurry and hard to  
14      read.

15      Q.       Okay. My copy isn't much better. But there is  
16      something from the ILSC, which was a summer program  
17      separate from his current program, right?

18      A.       Correct.

19      Q.       And that confirmed that he had been in that  
20      summer program.

21      A.       Correct, and I spoke to the program, too, to  
22      confirm.

23      Q.       And did that program confirm that he was staying  
24      with a family for purposes of that program?

25      A.       They did not confirm that one way or another.

1 Q. Okay. Okay. And so your concern is is basically  
2 you don't know whether or not he has been taking his  
3 medications; it's just an unknown.

4 A. That is one of the concerns, correct.

5 Q. Okay. Did you speak to his parents about their  
6 interactions with him prior to his arrest to try and  
7 confirm whether or not he had been taking his -- you  
8 know, seemed to be in his normal mental state while  
9 he's taking medications?

10 A. No, I didn't.

11 Q. However, his parents have been in regular contact  
12 with him on a daily basis, just about, up until the  
13 time of his arrest.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And to your knowledge you don't have any  
16 information that he has a history of not taking his  
17 medications as prescribed.

18 A. Correct, I don't know that.

19 Q. Now, you also spoke to his father about the  
20 possibility of the father acting as a third-party  
21 custodian; is that correct?

22 A. Yes, I did.

23 Q. And what was the father's response to the  
24 possibility of his being a third-party custodian?

25 A. He's willing to.

1 Q. Finally, I wanted to ask you about a report that  
2 you reference regarding a Detective Kniss, it's  
3 K-N-I-S-S, I believe. And do you have any information  
4 that any of the harassment reflected in that report  
5 occurred any time after January of 2009?

6 A. No, I do not know the time frames.

7 Q. Well, let me --

8 THE COURT: 2009?

9 MS. VILLA: 2009.

10 BY MS. VILLA:

11 Q. Let me show you a report and see if it refreshes  
12 your recollection as to when the last reported contact  
13 may have been in that -- as reported by Detective  
14 Kniss. I am showing you this, directing you to that  
15 date, and if you can just read that and see if it  
16 refreshes your recollection.

17 A. I actually spoke with the detective.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. And during that we did not discuss time frames.

20 Q. All right.

21 A. So that's what I was referencing.

22 Q. Okay. And do you have any other information that  
23 his -- the time frame reported in that report -- have  
24 you been provided with a copy of this report?

25 A. I have read the report.

1 Q. Okay. And that report indicates that the last  
2 contact was in January of 2009?

3 A. That's what it says, correct.

4 Q. And you have no information from Detective Kniss  
5 or otherwise that there was any contact after January  
6 2009.

7 A. No, I do not.

8 Q. And there was no contact of any -- that you are  
9 aware of after the search warrant in 2010, January.

10 A. None that I'm aware of.

11 Q. Okay.

12 MS. VILLA: Thank you, I have no further  
13 questions.

14 CROSS EXAMINATION

15 BY MS. TORRESEN:

16 Q. Ms. Blanchette, Ms. Villa asked you about the  
17 defendant's use of an RF unit.

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. And specifically she wondered whether -- how long  
20 it would take for the notification to come through if  
21 he left the house without permission; is that correct?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Would the notification tell you where he was  
24 headed?

25 A. No.

1 Q. Would you have any way by any form of GPS or  
2 anything to determine that?

3 A. No.

4 Q. With regard to the history of flight section of  
5 your report --

6 MS. TORRESEN: And, Your Honor, we're  
7 referring to this report and I would like to ensure  
8 that it's into evidence in its entirety, the bail  
9 report. Do I need to move the admission of that?

10 THE COURT: Yes, because it's not normally  
11 part of the record and I don't --

12 MS. TORRESEN: All right. Then I would move  
13 the admission of what I've marked for identification as  
14 Government's 3, which is the bail --

15 MS. VILLA: I object to it being admitted as a  
16 document in evidence because it's not evidence itself.  
17 The report is a confidential document that should not  
18 be available to the public. Putting it into evidence  
19 would make it so. And so it is something that is  
20 available to the Court for considerations of bond, but  
21 I don't believe that it otherwise needs to be part of  
22 the record.

23 THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection to the  
24 report. You can certainly put the -- any relevant  
25 contents of it you can attempt to question the witness

1 about, but it would simply be shorthand to --

2 MS. TORRESEN: Yeah, and I would hope to be  
3 able to argue from it as well, Your Honor. All right.

4 BY MS. TORRESEN:

5 Q. Then I'd like to ask you about your history of  
6 flight section on this -- in this report and  
7 specifically about the trip to Mexico. Tell us what  
8 you did to verify the trip to Mexico after you had  
9 heard about it from all these various sources.

10 A. Primarily I spoke to the father to find out what  
11 happened with that.

12 Q. And I'd like to get your detail about that. What  
13 did he say?

14 A. He indicated that after the search warrant was  
15 issued, was done at the home, defendant had a problem  
16 sleeping in the home, had fears that people were going  
17 to kick in the doors. He also indicated that during  
18 the search warrant -- during the process of the search  
19 the defendant had been placed in handcuffs and been  
20 intimidated by the agents and was fearful of the  
21 agents. So he reported that his son hadn't been  
22 sleeping, and he took a vehicle that belonged to the  
23 family and drove to Mexico.

24 Q. Okay. And where did he go in Mexico?

25 A. I believe it's Monterrey.

1 Q. Okay. I can hand you the report if that --

2 A. I think I have one right there. Yes, Monterrey.

3 Q. All right. And do you know where that is in  
4 Mexico?

5 A. No, I do not.

6 MS. TORRESEN: If the judge would take  
7 judicial notice, it's about equidistant to the border  
8 as San Antonio is to -- you know, I didn't do the  
9 mileage on it but about -- San Antonio is as  
10 equidistant to the border as Monterrey is within  
11 Mexico, okay? I should have Googled it.

12 THE COURT: You looked at the map and it  
13 looked like about this much space to San Antonio north  
14 and about this much space.

15 MS. TORRESEN: Exactly, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: That's a scientific --

17 MS. TORRESEN: Yeah, that tells you a lot,  
18 doesn't it?

19 THE COURT: I understand.

20 MS. TORRESEN: All right.

21 BY MS. TORRESEN:

22 Q. You said that he took the family car to Mexico,  
23 and did he tell you anything else about how long he  
24 stayed or what he did?

25 A. He said that he stayed about two or three days.



1 He checked himself into a motel and slept.

2 Q. And then did he tell you how he returned or why  
3 he returned?

4 A. His father indicated that the family made the  
5 decision that it was important that he get back and  
6 fast, that they were not worried about the car because  
7 its value was very little, so they had him take a cab  
8 to the border, I believe walk across the border, and  
9 then take a cab on the U.S. side from the border to the  
10 airport and fly back to Indiana.

11 Q. All right. Did that strike you as strange?

12 MS. VILLA: Objection.

13 THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection.

14 MS. TORRESEN: All right.

15 BY MS. TORRESEN:

16 Q. Did you ask the father why he didn't just drive  
17 the car back to the border?

18 A. No, I didn't.

19 Q. Did you ask the father why he went to Mexico as  
20 opposed to, say, Illinois?

21 A. No, I didn't.

22 Q. All right. Did the father say why he went to  
23 Mexico?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Did you ask whether the father knew that he was

1 heading to Mexico with the family car?

2 A. No.

3 Q. All right. And then with regard to Canada, did  
4 you find out when he went to Canada?

5 A. Yes, April 24th, 2010.

6 Q. And did you find out how he got there?

7 A. His father communicated that they drove him  
8 there, brought him there.

9 Q. All right. And you said that he confirmed -- you  
10 confirmed that he did go to this school in Montreal to  
11 learn a foreign language; is that correct?

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. And he took some French courses; is that right?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And then he went to Prince Edward Island and  
16 entered a welding school; is that correct?

17 A. Correct, he's been accepted at the school.

18 Q. Okay. And, according to your report, the  
19 defendant told you that he was living on campus; is  
20 that correct?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. And he was pretty clear about that, right?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. But was there any contradictory evidence from the  
25 father on that?

1 A. The father indicated that when they moved him to  
2 Prince Edward Island they set him up in an apartment.

3 Q. All right. And the school itself wouldn't  
4 confirm that he was on campus; is that correct?

5 A. Correct, the woman looked through the file and  
6 determined that he had not applied for student housing.

7 Q. All right. With regard to the use of the father  
8 as a third-party custodian, did you make any  
9 investigation of the father?

10 A. Yes, I did.

11 Q. And could you determine anything about the  
12 suitability of the father as a third-party custodian?

13 A. Regarding -- could you be more specific?

14 Q. Whether he'd be a suitable party to serve as a  
15 third-party custodian?

16 A. The -- the father appears to have distinct ties  
17 in the community, he works there. He does not appear  
18 to have any kind of criminal record, and he appears  
19 very dedicated to his son.

20 Q. So dedicated that he gives up the family car to  
21 go to Mexico -- to let the son leave the family car in  
22 Mexico?

23 A. It is possible. He didn't seem very concerned  
24 about his son's trip to Mexico.

25 Q. All right.

1 MS. TORRESEN: I have no further questions for  
2 this witness.

3 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

4 BY MS. VILLA:

5 Q. I can't remember the exact words you used, but as  
6 far as the father, when you say he's very supportive of  
7 his son, is that in a sense of he will do what's in his  
8 son's best interest?

9 A. I believe so, yes.

10 Q. Okay. And in the son's best interest is, as far  
11 as you know, within the legal context, what is legal?

12 A. I don't know how he'd interpret in his son's best  
13 interest.

14 Q. Okay. And did you ask the father whether or not  
15 the family has any connections to Monterrey, Mexico?

16 A. The father did mention that they have friends  
17 down in that area.

18 Q. Okay. And whether or not they had previously  
19 traveled to that area?

20 A. He didn't -- I didn't ask and he didn't indicate.

21 Q. Okay. Other than the technicality or -- excuse  
22 me, I will rephrase that question.

23 Other than exactly where the housing was  
24 located, the information that he did have housing in  
25 Charlottetown, I believe it's called, where the --

1 where the school is, was all correct.

2 A. That he did have housing?

3 Q. Is that he was going to be living -- he had that  
4 place in -- oh, where is it called? In Prince Edward  
5 Island for purposes of going to school, that part was  
6 correct.

7 A. I know he was scheduled to begin school in the  
8 beginning of September.

9 Q. And that they paid the tuition and that there --  
10 the parents had helped move him there?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. Okay. So that the parents confirmed that they  
13 had some housing that was there in that town.

14 A. Correct.

15 MS. VILLA: I have no further questions, thank  
16 you.

17 THE COURT: Any other witnesses?

18 MS. VILLA: I have some information to  
19 proffer, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Are you done with her?

21 MS. VILLA: I am.

22 THE COURT: You may step down.

23 MS. VILLA: And the proffer is that the father  
24 could not make it here in time for this hearing. If  
25 the Court cared to hear from the father personally, he

1 is willing to come and appear in court but obviously  
2 could not be here for today. That he would be willing  
3 to report any violation of any bond condition to the  
4 authorities immediately should his son be in violation,  
5 that he would be willing to transport his son to court  
6 in Tennessee as necessary and to accompany him on those  
7 trips so that -- that should there be any question  
8 about his whereabouts his father would be there to  
9 confirm that he is -- where he should be doing what he  
10 should be doing in a manner that he should be doing it.  
11 I have absolutely no indication that the father would  
12 do anything other than act as an adequate third-party  
13 custodian.

14 And so if the Court would be willing to accept  
15 that as a proffer, I make that as a proffer of the  
16 Court, and that the father would be willing to drive  
17 here to Bangor to pick up his son, drive him back to  
18 Indiana and then to Tennessee as required, so that  
19 transportation issues to and from would also be in the  
20 custody of his father and that he would be more than  
21 willing to sign off on the bond as being the  
22 third-party custodian.

23 I'm trying to think if there's anything else that  
24 I need to tell you that was not covered by Miss  
25 Blanchette. That's it, thank you.

1 MS. TORRESEN: Your Honor, I would -- if I  
2 need to go forward at this point, if she's met the  
3 burden, then I would offer some evidence as well. I  
4 would offer Government Exhibit 1, which is just a copy  
5 of the criminal complaint and the affidavit in support  
6 of it. Government's Exhibit 2, which is an  
7 investigative synopsis done by the agent who wrote the  
8 affidavit on the report, he actually pronounces his  
9 name Kniss, Detective Kniss of Indiana, pardon me,  
10 Tennessee, excuse me. I would move the admission of an  
11 e-mail from Loren Thresher to me which details -- Loren  
12 Thresher is a special agent with Homeland Security and  
13 has put together the official records of Mr. -- of the  
14 defendant's entry into the United States on January  
15 30th through Laredo and his entry into Calais, the port  
16 of entry this most recent time. And it also has  
17 information regarding the Canadian entry in April of  
18 this year when the defendant went to Canada. And I  
19 would also offer Government 5, which is a concealed  
20 weapons permit for Matthew Dehart.

21 MS. VILLA: Okay, I have an objection.  
22 Government's Exhibit No. -- well, first of all, taking  
23 them in order offered --

24 THE COURT: Well, just put them here, I won't  
25 look at them yet, you can put them there and I'll

1 listen to what she has to say.

2 MS. VILLA: I believe Government's Exhibit  
3 No. 1 is already part of the record because it had to  
4 be part of the identity hearing. So I -- it's  
5 duplicative so I don't have any problem with that  
6 coming in.

7 Government's Exhibit 2 is an investigative  
8 synopsis that has an enormous amount of information in  
9 it that -- some of which is speculative. To the extent  
10 that it is relevant to the issue of detention, I  
11 believe that it was covered by Ms. Blanchette.  
12 Otherwise I believe that it contains information that  
13 is otherwise not public and should not be rendered  
14 public by putting it into the -- into the record, as  
15 well as the fact that I do not have the opportunity to  
16 cross-examine Agent Kniss regarding the information  
17 contained in that document.

18 And that, as far as Government's Exhibit No. 4, it  
19 contains information regarding dates of birth and other  
20 information that should have been redacted and was not,  
21 and, therefore, should not be part of the public  
22 record. If it were redacted I would not have any  
23 problem with it coming in.

24 And the same is true for Government's Exhibit  
25 No. 5 is that I believe that there is privileged



1 information that was not redacted in that as well. And  
2 if it were redacted I would otherwise not have a  
3 problem.

4 THE COURT: I forgot, what's No. 5?

5 MS. VILLA: It's a concealed weapons permit  
6 that it -- apparently he has abided by the law in  
7 obtaining a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

8 THE COURT: What's the privilege, you mean  
9 there's like a date of birth in it? That's not  
10 privileged.

11 MS. VILLA: Privacy protected.

12 THE COURT: Privacy protected.

13 MS. TORRESEN: Your Honor, I'm happy to redact  
14 4 and 5. No. 2 has been fully redacted, I believe, for  
15 all sorts of certainly victim identification and there  
16 are some phone numbers that are left in there because  
17 it's complicated and you have to match up phone numbers  
18 to sort of see what's going on. But otherwise it's  
19 been redacted.

20 THE COURT: All right. 1, 4, 5 -- what was 3?

21 MS. TORRESEN: 3 was the bail report, Your  
22 Honor.

23 THE COURT: Okay. 1, 4, and 5 are admitted  
24 subject to your redacting out the date of birth. 2,  
25 which is the Kniss report, is admitted over objection.

1 MS. TORRESEN: And, Your Honor, that's really  
2 the bulk of our evidence and what I would prefer to  
3 have you have a chance to look at, and then --

4 THE COURT: Right, I was just going to say,  
5 I'm going to take a short recess because this is fairly  
6 long. So I'll have to look it over. All right? Is  
7 there anything else right now that you wish to say?  
8 All right, I'm going to take a short recess to review  
9 the exhibit.

10 (A recess was taken.)

11 THE COURT: All right, we're resuming the  
12 hearing in 10-140. I've had an opportunity to review  
13 Government's Exhibit 2 now.

14 Ms. Torresen, you wish to be heard?

15 MS. TORRESEN: I would like to be heard, Your  
16 Honor. As we said at the outset, this is a presumption  
17 charge, and the Government's position is that there are  
18 no conditions which satisfy the need to protect the  
19 community or assure that this defendant will not leave.

20 He's charged with enticing and persuading a minor  
21 to produce child pornography, and the affidavit makes  
22 clear that we're talking about two minor victims. The  
23 investigative synopsis, which I have provided as  
24 Government's Exhibit 2, describes classic behavior of a  
25 sexual predator. The defendant, who I think at the

1 time was around 24 years old, befriends these minors,  
2 one of whom is 12 at that time. They meet at an online  
3 game which has some chat feature, he befriends them  
4 under a false identity. He tells them that he's  
5 Michael -- Matthew DeMarco, who's living in New York  
6 City or New York, the New York area. He's 16 years  
7 old; he's the son of a mobster. He makes himself out  
8 to be something exciting. And he contacts them via  
9 this game but also it escalates to contacting them over  
10 cell phones, chatting, he develops a relationship with  
11 these minors and one in which they think he is  
12 someone -- a teen, someone in their age group.

13 Ultimately he actually visits them in Tennessee,  
14 each minor is visited individually by him. And he  
15 gives them gifts. Some of these gifts were a watch,  
16 video games, jeans, and something that he referred to  
17 as uncut diamonds, which who knows what that was.  
18 But in the end of December, I think it was, of 2008 he  
19 actually takes one of these minors with him to a hotel  
20 where he checks in and he gives the minor a beer, which  
21 the minor doesn't finish, and shares Adderall with him.  
22 And this was the younger one of the two minors that he  
23 had at the hotel. And at the next day, I believe it  
24 was, he takes him -- this particular minor to the  
25 shooting range where he brings his own firearm. He

1 gives this minor a .380 round as a souvenir, and the  
2 minor also notices that there are guns in the back of  
3 his car.

4 He convinces over time these -- in befriending  
5 them, gaining their loyalty, convinces them to take  
6 photos of themselves, their genitalia, and to produce  
7 videos of themselves engaging in some sexual acts,  
8 masturbation, essentially. And he essentially tricks  
9 them into believing that they're sending it to teenage  
10 girls, although the evidence suggests that they -- that  
11 these girls don't exist and that the defendant himself  
12 has a connection to these e-mail addresses.

13 And then apparently the parents kind of catch on  
14 to this and tell them don't -- no more contact, don't  
15 contact our kids anymore. And instead of just going  
16 away he sets up this elaborate ruse whereby he's using  
17 spoofed telephone numbers to contact these families,  
18 numerous calls, and this is what's occurring in January  
19 '09, where he's pretending that he's from a law firm  
20 which represents the mobster DeMarco or he's pretending  
21 that he is the -- the headmaster of the school that  
22 he's supposed to be attending. And, you know, this is  
23 just strange behavior, really, but reaching out to the  
24 families of these boys. And it's clear from the  
25 investigative synopsis that the boys are torn. They --

1 they have some loyalty to him and they don't want to  
2 get him in trouble. And I think that's just all part  
3 of that classic preying on a young, vulnerable victim.

4 Then we come to the search warrant that's done on  
5 his house in January of -- January 25th of 2010. And  
6 within days of that search warrant he's taken the  
7 family car and going to Monterrey, Mexico, for rest.  
8 That doesn't make any sense, that you'd go for three  
9 days to sleep in Monterrey and that you'd come back and  
10 leave the car there. It just doesn't add up. It's a  
11 strange set of events. He gets back into the U.S., and  
12 then he gets enrolled in this welding program on P.E.I.  
13 I can't think of a farther place to go from southern  
14 Indiana to P.E.I. for welding, just seems like an odd  
15 thing. It seems like really what he wants most is he  
16 knows he's in trouble and he wants to stay out of this  
17 country. When he comes into the country in July he's  
18 coming in just to, what they call, do a flagpole, which  
19 is come in, get your student visa updated, and walk out  
20 again, go back into Canada.

21 And I know that there are some conditions where  
22 you could take away a passport and try to restrict  
23 travel to foreign countries. But we all know from the  
24 number of illegal alien cases that we do in Maine, you  
25 can keep them from getting into the country illegally,

1 perhaps -- legally, perhaps, but it's very difficult to  
2 keep someone out of another country if they're going to  
3 just go again across the border at night, you know, not  
4 at a port of entry. So I think that there is a strong  
5 risk of flight here.

6 The idea that the father is going to be an ideal  
7 custodian seems to me completely untested at this  
8 point, and we have a father who's letting the kid take  
9 the family car to Mexico two days after a search  
10 warrant. I just -- seems to me like he's not at all an  
11 ideal custodian.

12 In addition, we have behavior from this  
13 individual, he's got some known mental issues, some  
14 issues with medication, I think it's just unstable,  
15 it's an unstable situation that we have on our hands.  
16 And the bottom line is that the defendant is both a  
17 risk of flight and a danger to the community. And I  
18 believe that it would be wise for the Court to enter  
19 a -- at least a temporary order of detention to allow  
20 the case to be removed to Tennessee, the District Court  
21 where the charge is pending, and to allow that  
22 magistrate down there to determine what's in the best  
23 interest of his own community, whether this defendant  
24 does present a risk to his community, whether there are  
25 adequate monitoring capabilities of the probation

1 offices in those, whether the father would be an  
2 adequate custodian. I think it would be prudent to let  
3 the case go down to the Middle District of Tennessee  
4 for that determination and that what we should do here  
5 is enter an order of temporary -- temporary order of  
6 detention and then just remove it down there.

7 THE COURT: I don't think there is any such  
8 animal as you described.

9 MS. TORRESEN: A temporary order of detention?

10 THE COURT: Um-hum.

11 MS. TORRESEN: Well, you've done them before.

12 THE COURT: Well, that doesn't mean it exists.

13 MS. TORRESEN: Well, there's precedent for  
14 them. I mean, I think what it is is --

15 THE COURT: I mean, the law is pretty clear.

16 MS. TORRESEN: You're going to order him  
17 detained -- you've often said to people, I'm ordering  
18 you detained, if you can show a change in circumstances  
19 bring it back to me, I'll look at it.

20 THE COURT: That's what the statute provides  
21 for. There has to be some -- something that's not  
22 known or presented to the Court at the time of the  
23 detention hearing. The defendant has the  
24 opportunity -- it's the defendant's election, he can  
25 choose to have his detention hearing there, where all

1     those things you said might be better considered, or he  
2     can choose to have it in the district of his arrest.  
3     He's chosen to have it here. I enter a detention  
4     order, if I enter -- if I order him detained, it is a  
5     detention order, and he has the same burden as I always  
6     tell those people in front of me. If there's some  
7     circumstance that comes to your attention that wasn't  
8     known to you at the time of the hearing, you can always  
9     move to have me consider modifying my detention order.

10           MS. TORRESEN: Well, and that's what I'm  
11     proposing is that, enter an order of detention. If he  
12     can come up with some better circumstances down -- down  
13     in Tennessee or in Indiana, if he can bring in his  
14     custodian and if he can convince the probation officers  
15     down there that, look, we've got these conditions set  
16     up, then let that judge make that determination. But  
17     for today I don't believe that he's established or met  
18     his burden, and I believe that there are no conditions  
19     that exist that would ensure the safety of the  
20     community or that would assure his appearance.

21           THE COURT: The safety of the community  
22     issues, doesn't it strike you as odd that a year goes  
23     by without anything happening in this case and there's  
24     no apparent danger to the community, and then the  
25     search warrant's executed six, seven, eight months ago



1 now and nothing dangerous happens to the community, and  
2 then on August 6th, after the defendant's apparently  
3 taken into custody by immigration authorities, a  
4 warrant's obtained in Tennessee?

5 MS. TORRESEN: Your Honor --

6 THE COURT: Apparently the defendant was even  
7 taken into custody on August 5th; is that possible?

8 MS. TORRESEN: I don't know that information.

9 THE COURT: I read it in the *Bangor Daily*  
10 *News*.

11 MS. TORRESEN: Well, I wouldn't trust that  
12 paper but -- no, just kidding. I think it -- all I  
13 know is I heard about it on Friday.

14 THE COURT: That's when I heard about it as  
15 well, late -- toward the latter part of Friday  
16 afternoon, and indeed the Tennessee arrest warrant is  
17 dated August 6, which was Friday.

18 MS. TORRESEN: Right, right. And, Your Honor,  
19 I would say that the search warrant was done in  
20 January, end of January.

21 THE COURT: Right.

22 MS. TORRESEN: And they seized a lot of  
23 computer equipment which is then sent for analysis to  
24 the FBI lab. I believe it was the FBI lab. And  
25 that -- it was my understanding that that analysis is

1 just now being completed, so I haven't seen any of the  
2 results of the analysis of those computers.

3 THE COURT: Right.

4 MS. TORRESEN: And I'm not saying that I have  
5 evidence on those computers, but I suspect, they did do  
6 a search warrant to find that evidence, that we'll be  
7 hearing more about this.

8 THE COURT: Right, but the salient facts in  
9 the affidavit are facts that existed as of 2009,  
10 essentially.

11 MS. TORRESEN: Right, and -- -- that's  
12 correct.

13 THE COURT: With the addition of the flight  
14 business after the execution of the warrant in 2010.

15 MS. TORRESEN: That's correct, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Years fly by.

17 MS. TORRESEN: Well, the evidence of the  
18 danger to the community, you know, I think the thing  
19 about these cases which are sexual --

20 THE COURT: Your burden there is clear and  
21 convincing.

22 MS. TORRESEN: That's a fairly low burden but  
23 the -- what I want to say about this presumption thing  
24 is that that's Congress's determination that certain  
25 offenders are likely to continue to engage in criminal

1     conduct undeterred either by the pendency of charges  
2     against them or the imposition of monetary bond or  
3     release conditions. And the type of offender we're  
4     talking about here is this type of predatory offender.  
5     That I don't have evidence that he's continued to  
6     engage in it, it doesn't mean he didn't continue to  
7     engage in it. I admit that we don't have the evidence  
8     for 2010, but we were focused -- the investigation was  
9     focused on these two boys from Tennessee.

10           THE COURT: So Congress went on to determine  
11     that not all offenders in that category should be  
12     detained because they provided for certain conditions  
13     of release that could ameliorate those conditions,  
14     including electronic monitoring.

15           MS. TORRESEN: Right, but I don't believe that  
16     the defendant has established any sorts of conditions  
17     that would either assure his appearance or ensure the  
18     safety of the community.

19           THE COURT: Thank you.

20           MS. VILLA: Your Honor could establish those  
21     conditions by having a third-party custodian, being his  
22     father, by having electronic monitoring, basically  
23     having him under home confinement with the ability of  
24     the probation officer to allow his release for  
25     appropriate appointments that are necessary for medical

1     appointments, et cetera, that his travel is restricted  
2     to Indiana and to the District of Tennessee in the  
3     company of his father, which would be part of that  
4     order.

5             That it would be -- let me see -- certain things  
6     that Adam Walsh does include, there's been litigation  
7     regarding this, and by and large what the cases that  
8     have construed the Adam Walsh Act and the conditions  
9     are that it's still an individualized finding. You  
10    still have to look at the individual circumstances, and  
11    in these circumstances you have a person who is  
12    dependent on their parents, has been, who has very  
13    close ties to his parents, his parents have very close  
14    ties to the community. They aren't going anywhere,  
15    that -- they aren't -- they aren't any type of people  
16    who have a history of illegality. As a matter of fact,  
17    they have offered as much help and have answered  
18    truthfully all of the questions put to them by the  
19    probation officer for purposes of the presentence  
20    investigation. Have been forthright, as far as we  
21    know, about answering questions regarding the trip to  
22    Mexico, what happened to the car, you know, anything  
23    that she wanted to know. If she asked, they told her.  
24    And she confirmed that what they told her was correct.  
25    And so there is no -- no area to say that they would

1 not be appropriate custodians because everything we  
2 know about them says that they would be, that they have  
3 jobs, that they are stable.

4 Let's see. So that's just it. Let's see, what  
5 does the Adam Walsh Act say. Four, which is abide by  
6 specified restriction on personal associations, places  
7 of abode. We don't have any problem with no contact.  
8 There has not been any contact that has been put forth  
9 through anything here since January of 2009, which is  
10 approximately 18 months ago. If there were any  
11 retribution one would imagine it would have occurred  
12 after the search warrant. Nothing, nothing.

13 The Government says, well, it seems odd that he's  
14 going to a school in Canada instead of something down  
15 here in the States, except for the fact that it might  
16 be a lot cheaper to go to that school, tuition could be  
17 cheaper. There are a lot of legitimate reasons why  
18 somebody might enroll in that particular program than  
19 otherwise. And so for those reasons, you know, if  
20 somebody said -- if the probation officer thought that  
21 it was odd that they were going -- it seems like she  
22 would have asked that, but apparently the conversations  
23 that were being had made sense and it was just taken  
24 that this is what's happening and there were legitimate  
25 reasons. They weren't trying to hide the fact that

1       that's why he was there or that was what was happening.

2               Let's see, No. 5, avoid contact, reporting on  
3       regular basis, complying with the specified curfew, if  
4       you had home confinement that -- the specified curfew,  
5       I guess, would substitute for home confinement or that  
6       is what it is. And that's just an interesting thing is  
7       even the Adam Walsh Act does not necessarily foresee  
8       strict home confinement. I'm just saying is that he  
9       right now does not have a job to go to and so does not  
10      need to have those regular release hours. But even in  
11      this type of case in general Congress has not said if  
12      they are released to the community they have to be  
13      under home confinement. That's not the idea of what  
14      those restrictions are. And so I don't think that  
15      that's what the presumption means or indicates at all.

16             As far as the possession of firearms and his  
17      concealed carry permit, that just indicates that he  
18      actually was following the law in order to engage in  
19      certain conduct. It does not indicate that he would  
20      violate an order that would prohibit him from having  
21      any firearms at all.

22             And so all of those parts, I mean, if the Court  
23      wanted to have him have no computer contact, his  
24      parents have indicated, as reflected in the bail  
25      report, they're willing to purge their house of those

1 computers and to disallow that type of contact. So  
2 that whatever is the concern that is evident in these  
3 particular -- this particular case, there appears to be  
4 a condition that the Court would be able to structure  
5 to account for that concern. And when there are those  
6 conditions, that can be structured, that's when the  
7 statute says the Court should impose them and order  
8 release. And that is because it is still part of our  
9 Constitution that a person is presumed innocent until  
10 and unless convicted and that a person should not be  
11 detained unless there are compelling reasons to do so.  
12 And I believe that there are not those compelling  
13 reasons in this case.

14 THE COURT: Thank you. Ms. Villa, I think the  
15 problem with this case is -- that you haven't accounted  
16 for and that Ms. Torresen characterized as the  
17 weirdness factor is the really disturbing part. I  
18 mean, fleeing to Mexico after a search warrant is  
19 disturbing. I could infer from what I heard that it  
20 was disturbing to Mr. Dehart's father and he wanted him  
21 back and he wanted him back now because he knew that  
22 that wasn't going to get him anywhere in the long run  
23 and could be dangerous to him. But the fact is he fled  
24 to Mexico.

25 And then going to school to Canada, it may be

1 cheaper, you say. There's no evidence -- no suggestion  
2 that it, A, is cheaper. One knows if one is a resident  
3 of Canada on a seasonal basis that dollar change is at  
4 par right about now so there's not a lot of benefit to  
5 Canadian living in terms of economic advantage. And  
6 that's -- that's strange to go to school in Canada from  
7 southern Indiana. It's unexplained on this record  
8 except to get away, and that's in the face of the  
9 police coming and being intimidating in executing a  
10 search warrant.

11 Obtaining an arrest warrant and charging someone  
12 with an offense that carries a 15-year mandatory  
13 minimum is much more intimidating in my view, thereby  
14 escalating by extreme measures the risk of flight. And  
15 I view this entirely as a risk of flight case based on  
16 the unique circumstances of this case. I do agree with  
17 you, Ms. Villa, that the dangerousness components could  
18 be ameliorated by an Adam Walsh sort of release, and I  
19 think the Government, you know, has, for whatever  
20 reason, because of its thorough investigation, has sat  
21 on the case for almost two years and there's been no  
22 indication of harassment of victims or further  
23 dangerousness.

24 But what that little harassment of the victims'  
25 family interlude tells me supports my concern about the



1 risk of flight because it shows the degree of the  
2 defendant's sophistication with identity things and  
3 spoofing calls and handling how to get around in the  
4 world. He's not naive in terms of how to disguise  
5 himself or disguise his identity. And that creates a  
6 concern for me that feeds into my concern about the  
7 risk of flight. So I view that whole bit with the  
8 victims' family and the post learning that they had  
9 initiated some sort of investigation not so much as  
10 clear and convincing evidence of dangerousness but good  
11 evidence that increases the risk of flight in this case  
12 because of the sophistication evidenced by that.

13 So for all those reasons, I think that in this  
14 case I have to enter an order of detention, given the  
15 seriousness of the offense, the history of prior  
16 conduct since it became known to the defendant that he  
17 was under investigation, first with the families, then  
18 fleeing to Mexico, then establishing himself in Canada,  
19 all of which suggest to me that he wants to avoid at  
20 every cost prosecution. And now he's confronted with  
21 the reality of prosecution for a most serious offense.  
22 So I think all of that risk is magnified 50 times over  
23 with the return of a complaint and search -- and arrest  
24 warrant on his behalf.

25 MS. VILLA: May I address the Court's

1 concerns?

2 THE COURT: I've ruled, Ms. Villa. You had  
3 your opportunity to address the Court's concern; that's  
4 why we had a hearing.

5 MS. VILLA: Yes, except for the fact that I  
6 think that there are certain reasons why the Court has  
7 concerns about the risk of flight that may be not  
8 supported by what the record is, and this is just it --

9 THE COURT: Well, you know, you can take that  
10 up in your appeal, which will go to the United States  
11 District Court in the Middle District of Tennessee.

12 MS. VILLA: Thank you.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 (Time noted: 4:18 P.M.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Lori D. Dunbar, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified  
Realtime Reporter, and Official Court Reporter for the  
United States District Court, District of Maine,  
certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from  
the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

Dated: September 28, 2010

/s/ Lori D. Dunbar

Official Court Reporter